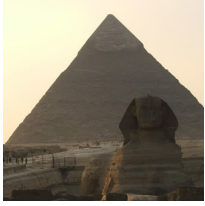


Walk Like An Egyptian

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Cairo - In October, I had the opportunity of fulfilling a lifetime dream....to visit Egypt. Our journey into 5,000 years of human history started in Cairo. Cairo is a HUGE chaotic city with INSANE traffic. When asked why they don't have more traffic lights our tour guide replied, "They could, but nobody would obey them." Unbelievably, the Great Pyramids are located outside the city amongst craziness, but are impressive nonetheless. How the ancient Egyptians built them is still a question for many.

In Luxor, we visited Karnak temple where 130 stone columns are totally covered by carvings and bright colors. Next was Valley of the Kings. When the pyramids and other tombs were plundered, tombs were built in the Valley to conceal them from thieves. Most were still raided except Tutankhamun's tomb whose treasures are in the Cairo museum.

We continued up the Nile by ship to the towns of Esna, Edfu, Kom Ombo and Aswan. Our far southern destination was Abu Simbel, where Rameses II built a magnificent temple. Its greatness stops you in your tracks! The area was called Nubia in ancient times and has an African flavor.

Alexandria, named by Alexander the Great was our last stop. The most famous attractions were the Library of The World, founded by the Greeks and of course the Mediterranean Sea.

I enjoyed the experience of Egypt, but it was definitely good to be back to comfort, formed lines and safe public water fountains.

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